

STRAIGHT FROM THE STATEHOUSE

MCGREEVEY WELCOMES NY YANKEES TO NEW JERSEY

Governor McGreevey welcomed the New York Yankees to New Jersey at a press conference held by the Trenton Thunder last week.

The Thunder announced that the Yankees have agreed to form a minor-league affiliation in New Jersey. The Yankees Double-A farm team will re-locate from Connecticut to Mercer County Waterfront Park for the next four seasons. The Thunder had been the Double-A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox for the past eight years.

"The New York Yankees have a long history of cultivating and keeping their home-grown talent," said McGreevey. "Now, the people of New Jersey will have the opportunity to see this exemplary farm system in action."

MCGREEVEY CONVENES EDUCATION SUMMIT

Taking the next major step to deliver educational quality to New Jersey's classrooms, Governor McGreevey outlined a 20 point educational reform program at "The Governor's Education Summit 2002: New Jersey's Reform Agenda."

Before several hundred educators and legislators gathered at the Governor's Education Summit, McGreevey discussed reforms he is pursuing to improve learning by New Jersey's 1.3 million students, strengthen teaching in New Jersey classrooms, encourage innovation and enhance accountability of public schools. The Governor also announced that, he will meet with education and business leaders next month to develop a strategy to increase the number of New Jersey teachers who are National Board Certified and to support teachers who seek that certification.

"Our agenda is a simple one: better teaching, more learning, accountability and innovation," McGreevey said. "We will work in partnership with parents, teachers and schools to accomplish real reform, and to make meaningful changes in the lives of our children. Our agenda is one of action, and one of excellence."

MCGREEVEY SECURES \$425M IN SCHOOL FUNDS

Joined by Senator Jon Corzine and Congressman Bill Pascrell, Governor McGreevey announced that New Jersey will receive over \$425 million this year in federal "No Child Left Behind" funds.

"I want to recognize the cooperation and leadership of our Washington representatives and the New Jersey Department of Education for taking proactive steps to secure these funds. As a result of the State's quick action, New Jersey's children will greatly benefit."

The federal "No Child Left Behind Act," seeks to improve student achievement by increasing accountability for results. The Act also increases flexibility by allowing the State to use federal funds to enhance State education initiatives.



Gov. McGreevey reads "Johnny Appleseed" with 2nd graders at Long Fellow Elementary in Pennsauken.